

Due to the COVID-19 declared state of emergency and consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 (Budget Bill for 2018-2020) and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 in the provisions of Freedom of Information Act, the Board convened a virtual meeting to consider such regulatory and business matters as presented on the agenda necessary for the board to discharge its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

PURPOSE OF HEARING:

To receive public comment on the Board's proposed regulatory change to amend its regulations to specify that the requirement for persons licensed or registered by the Board to conduct "one's practice in such a manner so as to make the practice a danger to the health and welfare of one's clients or to the public " precludes the provision of conversion therapy and to define what conversion therapy is and is not. The goal is to align regulations of the Board with the stated policy and ethics for the profession of social work. The specific language of the proposed regulations is found in 18VAC140-20-60: "13. Not engage in conversion therapy with any person under 18 years of age."

PRESIDING OFFICER:

John Salay, L.C.S.W., Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Canek Aguirre, Citizen Member
Jamie Clancey, L.C.S.W.
Maria Eugenia Del Villar, L.C.S.W.
Dolores Paulson, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.
Joseph Walsh, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Angelia Allen, Citizen Member
Michael Hayter, L.C.S.W., C.S.A.C.
Gloria Manns, L.C.S.W.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

Latasha Austin, Licensing & Operations Manager
Jaime Hoyle, J.D., Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director- Discipline
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director- Licensing
Sharniece Vaughan, Licensing Specialist

DHP STAFF PRESENT:

Barbara Allison –Bryan, M.D., Deputy Director, Department of Health Professions
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst, Regulatory Compliance Manager, Department of Health Professions

BOARD COUNSEL PRESENT:

James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

VIRTUAL PUBLIC ATTENDEES:

Adam Trimmer, Virginia Ambassador, Born Perfect
Mathew Shurka, Co-Founder, Born Perfect

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Salay called the virtual hearing to order at 9:48 a.m.

**ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT
OF a QUORUM:**

Mr. Salay requested a roll call. Ms. Hoyle announced that six members of the Board were present at roll call; therefore, a quorum was established.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Ms. Hoyle read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions,

which was also the mission statement of the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Adam Trimmer commented that he felt the Board did a great job in defining conversion therapy, and that he supports the regulatory action.

Mathew Shurka, also offered his support for the changes as a survivor of conversion therapy.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other comment provided, Mr. Salay adjourned the September 25, 2020 Public Hearing at 9:56 p.m.

John Salay, L.C.S.W., Chair

Jaime Hoyle, Executive Director